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Our Case No. 9793/73

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Johann Karl et al.)
Serial No.: New Application) Examiner: To be assigned
Filing Date: Herewith) Group Art Unit No.: To be assigned
For: Assay for the Detection of N-)
Terminal proBNP)

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01 A*

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice to their further prosecution in a continuation and/or divisional application.

Please add new claims 20-140 as follows:

20. (New) A method of identifying N-terminal proBNP in a sample comprising:
detecting a complex of the N-terminal proBNP, a first antibody, and a second antibody; wherein

the first antibody is specific to a first epitope of the N-terminal proBNP;

the second antibody is specific to a second epitope of the N-terminal proBNP; and